

Routes to tour in Germany

The Rheingold Route

German roads will get you there — to the Rhine, say, where it flows deep in the valley and is at its most beautiful. Castles perched on top of what, at times, are steep cliffs are a reminder that even in the Middle Ages the Rhine was of great importance as a waterway. To this day barges chug up and down the river with their cargoes. For those who are in more of a hurry the going is faster on the autobahn that runs alongside the river. But from Koblenz to

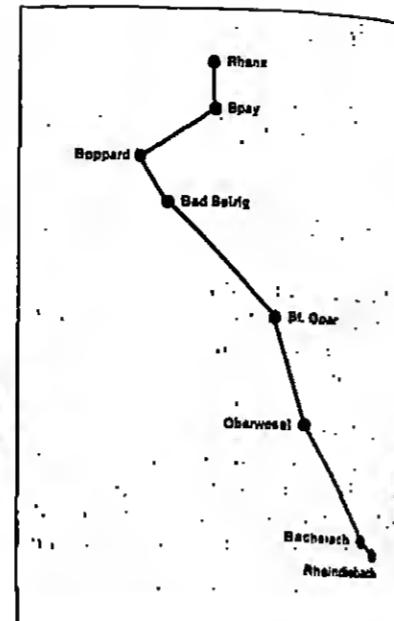
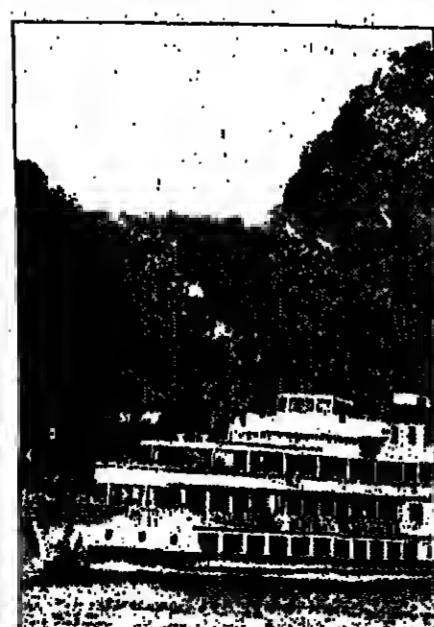
Bingen you must take the Rheingold Route along the left bank and see twice as much of the landscape. Take the chairlift in Boppard and enjoy an even better view. Stay the night at Rheinfels Castle in St Goar with its view of the Loreley Rock on the other side. And stroll round the romantic wine village of Bacharach.

Visit Germany and let the Rheingold Route be your guide.



- 1 Bacharach
- 2 Oberwesel
- 3 The Loreley Rock
- 4 Boppard
- 5 Stolzenfels Castle

DEUTSCHE ZENTRALE
FÜR TOURISMUS EV
Beethovenstrasse 69, D-6000 Frankfurt/M.



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How building the Berlin Wall signified a drawn game

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Building of the Berlin Wall began on one fine Sunday morning 25 years ago, on 13 August 1961. But what happened can hardly be said to have come like a bolt from the blue.

Storm clouds had been gathering all summer as East German border guards and "works defence units" ran barbed wire right through the heart of Berlin. The Four-Power status of the old German capital had been dealt a body blow.

Then the Wall was built, bringing an end to the mass exodus from East Germany triggered by the collectivisation of agriculture, the nationalisation of the economy, the enforced uniformity of what people thought and the system of control of their everyday lives.

The Berlin Wall, officially known in East Germany as the "anti-fascist protective wall," closed the escape route to the West that had survived in the form of the half-open border with the western sectors of the divided city.

The second major Berlin crisis (the first was the 1948/49 blockade and airlift) began in November 1958 when Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev served the West an ultimatum.

Within six months, he said, West Berlin had to become an "independent political entity" and the Western Allies had to withdraw from the city. Otherwise the Soviet Union would hand over its rights to the German Democratic Republic.

Any attack on the frontier of East Germany was an attack on the Warsaw Pact. "All Berlin," East German leader Walter Ulbricht explained, "was on German Democratic Republic territory."

The hydrogen bomb, the sputnik and intercontinental ballistic missiles had tempted the Soviet leaders to cash in their military might in the form of greater power.

Mr Khrushchev said socialism had gained the upper hand in the international arena. But this new feeling of strength was accompanied by fears for an empire that had survived the 1953 popular uprising in East Germany and the 1956 Hungarian uprising and Polish unrest by means of the deployment of Soviet tanks.

Besides, time seemed to be running out fast for the East German leaders as they steadily transformed East Germany into a Soviet-style republic.

What did the Russians want? Not just recognition of East Germany and, after a period of grace, the take-over of West Berlin, but an even more far-reaching strategy.

The aim was to pull the legal ground from under the Allies' feet in Berlin, destroy confidence in Germany and eliminate the European post-war system.

At the Vienna summit in June 1961 Mr Khrushchev brought pressure to bear on President Kennedy, who said he felt there was going to be a cold winter.

The Soviet leader threatened Western Europe with nuclear weapons and demonstrated in East Germany both military power and the will to exercise it.

Nato forces were in the minority in Western Europe, nuclear weapons were the ultimate ratio. So the United States reacted by sending in reinforcements, by increasing its military budget and by preparing to stage a fresh airlift.

The Americans showed both determination and readiness to negotiate. What happened in Berlin, bitter though it may have been for the Germans, was a drawn game in terms of world affairs.

The Wall was built but the West retained its "three essentials": the Allied

The Berlin Wall was built 25 years ago, in 1961. See page 6.

role as protecting powers in Berlin; unrestricted access to the city; and continued viability of their half of the city.

Ought the Western Allies to have sent in troops against the East German border guards, who were initially not issued with live ammunition? To say they ought is to forget how explosive the situation was.

The barricades would merely have been built a few yards further back. The Soviet Union went to the brink and the United States took its measure, eyeball to eyeball. But both were reluctant to take the plunge.

The drama that began in Berlin did not come to a head and reach a conclusion until over a year later during the Cuban missile crisis.

For the Soviet Union building the Wall was an expression of both external strength and internal weakness.

To this day the monstrous edifice testifies to the East German Communists' failure to prove their bona fides and to the popular desire to lead a different life.



Dead but not forgotten. Young East Berliners remember victims of the Wall's bloody history.

(Photo: AP)

A balancing act for 25 years in divided city

Relations between the two German states are difficult. Just how difficult was illustrated during events marking the 25th anniversary of the Berlin Wall.

First Chancellor Kohl, SPD leader Willy Brandt and West Berlin Mayor Eberhard Diepgen condemned what the Chancellor called "this monument to inhumanity."

They spoke in the Reichstag, a historic building barely a stone's throw from the Wall.

A few hours later and still fewer miles away, the East Germans held a martial ceremony attended by East Berlin party leader Erich Honecker.

As the 1972 Basic Treaty between the two German states wryly comments, the Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic "will develop normal good-neighbourly relations with each other."

Were these simultaneous yet so different anniversary events in Berlin a fair reflection of intra-German relations? What impression has the current flood of speeches, articles and gestures made?

In the West they have, fittingly, testified to a lamentable anniversary, although anger has mostly been offset by commitments to collaboration with the East German leaders.

The mortal blows made in East Berlin need not, for that matter, be seen as the end of Herr Honecker's readiness to collaborate and to negotiate with Bonn.

Were it not for the blunt way in which East Berlin dashed Bonn's hopes of coming to some arrangement on the influx of asylum applicants via East Germany the atmosphere of intra-German

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WORLD AFFAIRS

Look, no hands! Bulgarians show Bonn delegation how things have changed

DIE ZEIT

Bundestag Speaker Philipp Jenninger and a four-member delegation representing the four parliamentary parties in Bonn were proudly shown round an impressive dairy in the sun-drenched Dobrudja.

Fifty cows slowly rotated in a space-and-labour-saving circle as they were automatically fed and milked.

The tour of the highly modern dairy breeding complex in Dobrudja, Bulgaria, ended at a small museum where following photographs show what life used to be like: milking by hand, primitive stables and peasants' huts bent double behind ox-drawn ploughs.

There was no mistaking the genuine pride in progress. Herr Jenninger and his delegation constantly encouraged Bulgaria.

The success stories related by district chairmen, works managers and Party officials were partly intended to impress upon the visitors that every effort and every deutschmark invested by the Federal Republic of Germany in co-operation with Bulgaria would be money well spent.

Much the same message was implied on the guided tours of works manufacturing industrial robots and machine tools.

Formally the tour, which fell little short of a state visit in the extent of its programme and its protocol, was in return for an extended visit paid by the chairman of the Bulgarian People's Chamber, Stanko Todorov, to Bonn, Bremen, Hamburg and other places in North Germany last autumn.

East-West affairs remain the privilege of governments, but for some time parliamentarians have met to flesh out political ties. They can speak more freely than is possible in government negotiations.

Mr Todorov, for instance, has been a member of the Bulgarian parliament since 1961 and long served as Prime Minister.

As a parliamentarian he was able to say in private, frankly and without beating about the bush, that: "Small countries want to survive."

The old issue of how detente can be sustained and maybe even promoted when the superpowers are at loggerheads is as topical as ever.

At major East-West conferences Bulgaria only occasionally has wishes of its own, such as proposals for nuclear-free and chemical weapons-free zones in the Balkans.

But even a desire such as this depends closely on the general and immediate interest in further progress toward detente.

Bulgaria needs detente. Mr Todorov told the Bonn delegation, to make further progress toward its aim of adding a firm industrial base, especially one founded on technology of the future, to rank alongside its agricultural groundwork.

Unlike neighbouring Romania, Bulgaria has avoided trying to achieve too much at once, but Sofia is anxious not to miss the opportunity of keeping abreast of the future.

It feels it can only do so by close cooperation with the West, especially with the Federal Republic of Germany. And this line of thought goes further, although its extension is not expressly stated.

Relations with Russia have been based on deep and friendly feelings ever since the Tsar freed Bulgaria from centuries of Turkish oppression, and Soviet aid since the Second World War has enhanced what are truly good-neighbourly relations.

In everyday affairs rapprochement is a topic that subdivides into a number of difficult sub-headings.

The German-Bulgarian parliamentary group led by Social Democrat Klaus Immer and Free Democrat Olaf Feldmann quietly beavers away at grassroots work.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has so painstakingly kept up a wealth of carefully-tended contacts that smaller Eastern European countries have come to see him as standing for the patient and tenacious pursuit of detente.

But problems invariably arise when the discussion gets down to details. A German-Bulgarian investment promotion agreement was signed last spring and a double taxation agreement would probably have been signed already but for a number of outstanding problems over the inclusion of West Berlin.

The Bulgarians are not sufficiently unorthodox as to break ranks and rush ahead of the rest of the East Bloc.

Much the same message was implied on the guided tours of works manufacturing industrial robots and machine tools.

Curried away by his desire to put message across, he gave his interview hard time keeping up with him as he addressed the West German delegation.

Chernobyl was the keyword he chose to put across his East Bloc message to the West, and a very distinctive message it was in its undertones.

Since the Soviet reactor catastrophe he told his guests, it had been unmissable clear what a nuclear strike would do to "Civilisation," he said, "is at stake."

In a flurry of figures of speech he compared the possible catastrophe with the Flood. Had not wolf and lamb had both to seek refuge on board the Ark, he said.

Mr Zhivkov is not a man to go in for back-slapping with Western visitors and on one issue he raised before a wider public he sounded a worried note.

Anxiety accompanied peasant camping, irony, polemics and the official viewpoint as he asked the Bonn delegation why, if the capitalist world were convinced that socialism would collapse, they must first jeopardise survival of all mankind?

This query might be answered more authoritatively at a higher level, but at times the smaller East Bloc delegations are more revealing than larger ones.

The Albanian representative, Faik Cina, governor of Skutari province and a member of the presidium of the Albanian parliament, stressed that the link was designed to promote both foreign trade and good-neighbourly relations between Tirana and Belgrade.

Yugoslav Transport Minister Pljajic emphasised that all parts of Europe ought to have access to the rest of the continent.

Travellers to Albania will not benefit

from the new rail link. Tirana is concerned solely with boosting trade with Western Europe.

Export used to be sent almost entirely by truck through Yugoslavia. Rail freight should cut costs considerably.

The rail link between Hani Hoti and Titograd undeniably has a further political significance.

Only 16 months after the death of Enver Hoxha, Party leader Ramiz Alia has shown yet again that isolationist Albania is interested, up to a point, in closer ties with certain countries in Western Europe.

The Albanian post office had recently

issued a set of stamps in which several

Yugoslav cities in Kosovo province were made out to be Albanian.

The head of the Montenegrin railway

board promptly postponed inauguration

Continued on page 4

Herr Jenninger was particularly keen to persuade his hosts to agree to the opening of a Goethe Institute in Sofia but Bulgaria preferred to shelve the idea for the time being even though cultures are a busy two-way traffic.

Sofia prefers not to upset the GDR and is worried, as Communists inevitably are, that the idea might prove infectious and seed developments it does not want control.

Even so, now a cultural agreement has been signed by Bonn and East Berlin and now Bonn and Moscow have agreed to include West Berlin in an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation others seem to be won to the idea.

Moscow is of course the judge of far progress is to be allowed to go, and more so and on a wider range of issues than in the days when old men sway in the Kremlin.

Herr Jenninger reiterated Chancellor Kohl's invitation to the Bulgarian leader to visit the Federal Republic. Like the GDR, Erich Honecker, Mr Zhivkov called previous plans to visit Bonn at the latest two years ago at Moscow's behest.

The Bundestag Speaker was told Mr Zhivkov's bags were packed but could not set out with them until there was an improvement in the atmosphere of international political relations.

The meeting with Mr Zhivkov in his summer holiday residence on the Black Sea coast near Varna was a clear token of the importance Bulgaria attached to its visit by a Western parliamentary leader.

The Bulgarian leader, who has led Communist Party since 1954, made him the longest-serving Party general secretary in the East Bloc, looks a younger than 75.

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HOME AFFAIRS

Greens likely to dominate SPD conference

ing a look at means of supplying energy without the use of nuclear power and elaborating energy policy guidelines.

Former government spokesman Klaus Bölling recently praised Hauff as the better candidate for chancellor.

The list of motions for the party conference make it clear that the SPD rejects the further use of nuclear energy.

There is outspoken opposition to the high-temperature reactor in Hamm, the fast breeder reactor in Kalkar and the nuclear fuel reprocessing plant in Wackersdorf.

The SPD would like to see nuclear energy phased out in accordance with a graduated phase-out plan.

New nuclear power plants, it feels, should not be made operational.

One primary objective of the main motion on environmental policy is to turn ecological aims into economic motivation.

Many party members wish he were not so adamant. Senior party figures Peter Glotz and Willy Brandt have referred to 43 per cent of the votes cast as a realistic aim.

This difference is why the issue of the Greens is remaining on the boil. If the SPD does get 43 per cent, should it try to form a coalition government with the Greens or not?

On other issues, the list of motions makes it clear that an SPD government would halt deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles; call upon the Soviet Union to make cuts in its SS20 missile arsenal; investigate ways of generating non-nuclear energy sources; introduce a surcharge to fight unemployment; undo law-and-order measures introduced by the government; and restore welfare benefits cut by the government.

Delegates will have to work their way through the well over 600 motions listed in a 901-page book.

These proposals likely to form the basis for the SPD's policy programme should Johannes Rau be elected Chancellor will be dealt with at a special party conference in Offenburg.

Both conferences are expected to focus on more or less the same issues.

One of the SPD conference delegates happens to be a namesake of Chancellor Kohl's wife, Hannelore Kohl.

It will be interesting to see whether Shadow Chancellor Rau sticks to his prediction that the party will get an absolute majority or whether Willy Brandt's forecast of a "fair victory" of 43 per cent is more realistic. Delegates may decide that it is.

The motions to be put show that in the field of foreign and security policies, a future SPD government in Bonn would try to ban further deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles in the Federal Republic and try to get rid of missiles already deployed.

None of the motions reveal how the SPD intends to achieve an absolute majority in the general election.

It comes as no surprise that coalitions with the CDU and FDP are explicitly ruled out in the motions relating to the SPD's possible government policy programme.

None of the motions, however explicitly, rules out the possibility of an alliance with the Greens.

Shadow Chancellor Rau has repeatedly stated that the SPD does not want such an alliance.

This will probably turn out to be the main issue at the party conferences.

Now that Peter Glotz and Willy Brandt have referred to a figure of 43 per cent as a realistic election goal Shadow Chancellor Rau finds himself out in the cold with his sunny optimism of an absolute majority.

An increase in votes is expected, but not a majority without some kind of coalition.

This means that the question of an alliance between the SPD and Greens is bound to remain a key pre-election issue.

Johannes Rau has categorically rejected the idea of such an alliance.

Members of the SPD's parliamentary party wish they could persuade him to back down from this position.

What is the party conference in Nuremberg likely to say? Thomas Wilke

(General-Anzeiger Bonn, 8 August 1986)

Poll to pit non-superstar Rau against non-underdog Kohl

unwilling to hurt anyone doesn't really fit in with his party's longing for election battle cries.

The worst blow to the Social Democrats' campaign concept, however, has now been dealt by a man from the SPD's own ranks, Klaus Bölling.

Helmut Schmidt's former government spokesman, Bölling, publicly claimed that Rau was not the right man for the job of Chancellor.

Although Bölling today is a party outsider, he is not the only one who thinks this way.

Many SPD people, although hoping that Rau will win, fear that he will become a second Helmut Kohl.

Some are wondering whether it was right to nominate a man who is so committed to a middle-of-the-road course and so un-committed to truly socialist aims.

The party wing which seeks its salvation in a political alliance with the Greens has become silent.

However, ever since Rau announced that he would not let himself be elected Chancellor with the support of the Greens it has become clear that election day, 25 January, 1987, will be an "all or nothing" day for the SPD.

Only an absolute majority would mean victory, any other result defeat.

This is an inspiring prospect, but resembles the behaviour of a gambler who bets all his money on one number at the roulette table.

The CDU/CSU is also unlikely to get an absolute majority. But in contrast, they can count on a coalition partner, the FDP.

This means that they can sit back and wait for between 42 and 45 per cent of the vote. That will be enough if the FDP does reasonably well.

It is out of the question that the FDP will change their coat yet again and go back to their former allies, the SPD. The SPD has been making tentative overtures and the FDP has been under constant attack from the CSU leader, Bavarian Prime Minister Franz Josef Strauss. But any change now would be suicidal.

So the CDU/CSU can afford to run the risk of fighting the campaign with Helmut Kohl. Some in the Union even think it is better to have Kohl than a stronger and more popular chancellor.

They feel the safest strategy is a strong alliance with the FDP.

In other words, the two Union parties must give the FDP enough room to manoeuvre to make sure it keeps its head above water and gets the crucial five per cent of the votes cast.

The situation of the Greens here is uncertain. They have no prospect of having any influence in the formation of a government. Also, the SPD, which some Greens feel is the obvious partner for an alliance, is becoming the Greens' most dangerous rival.

One thing is clear: if Rau is to have any chance of getting an absolute majority, he must do it at the expense of the Greens.

That means Greens voters must desert in droves to the SPD. They would have to go in such numbers that there would be no more Greens left in the Bundestag.

Bonn government officials are considering fining airlines which fly in people of certain nationalities who do not have appropriate visas. The aim is to limit the flood of asylum applicants.

This is one of several steps being looked at. Another is to toughen up visa regulations in some countries. There is no intention of bowing to demands to amend the constitutional right of political asylum.

Consideration is first being given to moves that involve the Foreign Office. In several countries of origin, German missions are to be instructed to be more careful in issuing tourist visas.

Forty per cent of Iranian and nearly 10 per cent of Ethiopian asylum applicants are said to arrive in the Federal Republic of Germany with tourist visas.

There are also plans to fine airlines that fly in citizens of "problem countries" who are not holders of the appropriate visa.

This move is not expected to achieve too much in the way of results, but it may help to ensure enforcement of the obligation on airlines to fly back at their own expense aliens who are refused entry. This obligation arises from the Aliens Act.

Yet over two thirds of the 23,000 aliens who have so far arrived in the West this year via Schönefeld airport and East Berlin were carried by Aeroflot, the Soviet airline.

The remainder flew with Interflug, the East German airline, and with three smaller Middle Eastern airlines.

Obliging Aeroflot for one to fly back aliens who are refused entry seems sure to be easier said than done.

Besides, this provision only stands the slightest chance of being enforced when an alien is immediately refused

■ GERMANY

Tougher visa controls likely to close asylum floodgates

Frankfurter Allgemeine

entry, either because he doesn't hold a visa or because other provisions of the Aliens Act apply.

If an alien immediately applies for asylum, as is usually the case with those who arrive via East Berlin or East Germany, they can only be refused entry if their applications are "patently unwarranted," which is seldom apparent at first glance except when applicants are particularly inept.

Last year 11 per cent of applicants handled by the department responsible for processing asylum applications, a government agency in Zirndorf, Bavaria, were rejected because their applications were "patently unwarranted."

This year the proportion is unlikely to be higher, especially as the growing influx of applicants, about 50,000 already, is bound to slow down the time it takes to process applications.

Interior Ministry officials say they hope to reduce the average processing period to six months, as against the present year, but with a backlog already totalling 60,000 further delays, say a waiting list of two years, are likelier.

At present only half as many applications a month can be processed as are

submitted. So further delays seem a foregone conclusion.

The only way to effectively speed up the procedure is to employ more staff at Zirndorf, where 120 officials process asylum applications (and have done so individually, not collectively, since procedural changes introduced in 1982).

It is hard to say whether the 1982 changes have accelerated matters. This year the agency has been allocated 126 extra staff, but not all will be handling asylum applications.

Next year they are to be joined in Zirndorf and at other locations by a further 80 officials. But finding suitable candidates is easier said than done. Zirndorf is not a popular location and the work is hard.

Officials face the problem of communicating with applicants from Third World countries and need to combine sensitivity toward descriptions of conditions in far-off countries and a readiness to reach decisions regardless of any sympathy they may feel.

Only senior civil service grades can be considered for demanding work of this special nature.

The next step is the administrative court case, which can result in an application being turned down as either "patently unwarranted" or unwarranted (with no further qualification).

The difference between the two is that an application turned down because it is "patently unwarranted" can be followed by immediate deportation proceedings.

Administrative court proceedings currently take about 16 months on average, and an increase in the number of judges allocated to handle cases of this kind seems unlikely in view of the need for economies in government spending.

The Federal Constitutional Court has ruled that appeals against a "patently unwarranted" must be considered comprehensively and not just in brief.

So there are limits to the time that might be gained by setting up courts at the border; comprehensive consideration takes time no matter where it takes place.

Yet procedures might still be accelerated to some extent. The Federal Justice Ministry is reviewing possibilities.

Consideration is also being given to limiting appeals against asylum application rulings to a single higher court. That would necessitate legislation but would be legally possible, the Constitutional Court having ruled that a single court of appeal is sufficient recourse.

But lower administrative courts would be the obvious choice to handle appeals and they might, on grounds of caution or ideological bias, tend to waive rejections, and their rulings would then be final.

Asylum procedures take so long, including court proceedings, that practical limitations are imposed on the obligation on airlines to fly rejected applicants home. Legislative amendments are here under consideration.

To stay deportation proceedings bogus applicants have increasingly taken to destroying their passports. The authorities can then no longer check whether they held valid visas nor say for sure which country of origin must take them back.

Airlines might perhaps be required to

collect passengers' passports and hand them over to the German authorities together with the manifests.

This is a procedure anyone who has ever gone on a bus tour to East Germany will be acquainted with.

It is doubtful whether Aeroflot could be persuaded to agree to this procedure, but it is surely worth the attempt, and refusal would be most revealing.

Interior Ministry officials are unhappy about figures indicating that the problem is less serious than is claimed. These figures merely list the numbers of asylum applicants whose applications have been granted.

They number a mere 65,000 of the over four million foreign nationals in the Federal Republic.

But there are about 130,000 members of their families, roughly the same number of applicants whose applications are still being processed at about 30,000 quota refugees from South-East Asia.

(An international conference is shortly to review the activities of the *Cap Anamur* and other ships that take Vietnamese boat people on board from South China Sea.)

Then there are 42,000 displaced and stateless persons and about 270,000 refugees who are entitled to asylum but have been allowed to stay in Germany on humanitarian grounds.

So the total number of aliens resident in the Federal Republic whose status bears some relation to that of political asylum is over 600,000.

The Interior Ministry will hear nothing of the widespread argument that other countries handle similar numbers of asylum applicants.

Last year there were 74,000 applicants in the Federal Republic, as against 28,000 in France and 5,000 each in Holland and Belgium.

The Scandinavian countries are said to be in the process of making their asylum regulations more exacting. So are Switzerland and France.

Procedures are invariably administrative, with little or no right of legal recourse.

It seems reasonable to assume that the growing length of time it takes to process asylum applications in the Federal Republic is an added attraction for applicants whose motives are not political.

The register is in Salzgitter, a steel town near Brunswick not far from the border between East Germany and the Federal Republic.

The Justice Ministry of the *Länder* set up a central office here in 1961, just after the Wall was built, to monitor indictable offences committed on the border.

Chief public prosecutor Retemeyer, the head of the bureau, says 634 new cases have been registered so far this year, bringing the total to 34,918.

The Salzgitter files include 4,295 cases of homicide, including attempted homicide, 602 cases of maltreatment, 2,720 of political suspicion, 24,716 convictions on political grounds and 2,585 persons arrested in the border zone.

Records for the last category were only kept until 1968.

Homicide, down to 32 cases last year, comprises the use of firearms, automatic guns and mines against refugees.

Over the past 25 years 110 people have died on the intra-German border and 74 trying to cross from East Berlin and East Germany to West Berlin.

Case records are kept either in Salzgitter or at the Federal Archives in Koblenz.

(*Evangelos Antonaros/SAD*)

(*Die Welt*, Bonn, 13 August 1986)

■ BERLIN

A city that reflects the hots and colds of detente

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

condition led by Chancellor Brandt and Foreign Minister Scheel.

Dr Kissinger, as President Nixon's national security adviser, set out despite the continuation of war in Vietnam to establish relations between Washington and Moscow on a new basis by means of strategic arms control.

Even so, the rethink triggered by the fall of the Wall has led to improvements in day-to-day affairs.

The main lesson Western politicians have slowly learnt since 1961 is that they are not able to do anything about what happens in the Soviet sphere of influence.

Years of subsequent rows on access routes between Berlin and the West steadily hammered this message home, while internationally the Hallstein Doctrine steadily lost ground.

The Hallstein Doctrine committed Bonn to breaking off diplomatic ties with countries that recognised East Germany. Over the years there has been growing readiness to accept the existence of East Germany as a second German state.

Henry Kissinger must be credited with having brought to a successful conclusion the efforts to establish better safeguards for Berlin.

He did so in the context of the new Ostpolitik pursued initially by the Grand Coalition of Christian and Social Democrats and then by the SPD-FDP.

It misses no opportunity of fully integrating the eastern sector in East Germany. East Berlin legislation is no longer a barrier published in the East Berlin official gazette and since October 1976 East Berlin members of the People's Chamber have no longer been issued with special passes.

Since 1977 all non-German day visitors to East Berlin except Allied military and diplomatic personnel have had to hold visas.

Walter Ulbricht probably had to go in May 1971 because he failed to appreciate this point and was reluctant to come to terms on Berlin.

He was replaced as Party leader by

Continued from page 1

relations could be described as satisfactory.

That was the gist of the white paper presented by Intra-German Affairs Minister Heinrich Windelen, who listed a number of improvements:

- There has been a further increase in the number of East German pensioners allowed to visit the West.

- Youth exchange schemes have at least got off the ground.

- The intra-German cultural agreement was signed, after years of delay, in May.

- The outlook for links on an environmental agreement and the irksome pollution of the Werra coming to a successful conclusion are by no means bad.

- Above all, since March East Germans have been allowed to visit the West on "urgent family matters" in such numbers that there is a growing chance of another category of travel to the West for people under pensionable age taking shape.

- It is clearly beneficial that virtually no serious politician has not shaken hands with Erich Honecker. East German leaders and officials are made welcome in the Federal Republic, which is just as they have all changed the ranly on both sides; and without doubt for the better.

- But this new and regained intra-German reality is surrounded and undermined by another reality, that of lives hemmed in and pettily oppressed by the state of the nation.

- Yet that doesn't mean the policy of dialogue and collaboration with the East German leaders should be abandoned. It merely shows what a difficult balancing act it is and what tension needs to be taken into account.

- Progress in intra-German affairs cannot be had for less.

(*Hermann Rudolph*)



Bride and husband in Waat face her parents in East, 1981.

(Photo: dpa)

the border between the two halves of the city, thereby validating it as an international frontier.

Realignments in and around Berlin include the way in which East Germany, keen to flex its muscle in world affairs, brings its weight to play.

The Four-Power Agreement was signed by the US, Soviet, British and French governments "regardless of their legal positions."

East Germany holds the Eastern view that the Agreement applies only to the western sectors of the divided city.

It misses no opportunity of fully integrating the eastern sector in East Germany. East Berlin legislation is no longer a barrier published in the East Berlin official gazette and since October 1976 East Berlin members of the People's Chamber have no longer been issued with special passes.

Since 1977 all non-German day visitors to East Berlin except Allied military and diplomatic personnel have had to hold visas.

Border checks between East Berlin and East Germany have been abolished. But East Berlin recently had to beat a retreat after failing in an attempt to insist on diplomats showing passports at

in general terms than with specific reference to tangible benefits for everyone.

Important though it may be to have reached agreement on a border rivulet that for decades has polluted the rivers it flows down into, that surely cannot be the measure of intra-German relations.

The anniversary attention paid to the Wall on both sides is a reminder that intra-German normalisation is a divided normalisation at the best of times — and on shaky ground.

The travel and exit permit arrangements now available, the talks and negotiations that are in progress, the plays, operas and concerts performed, the exhibitions held and discussions staged — they have all changed the ranly on both sides; and without doubt for the better.

But this new and regained intra-German reality is surrounded and undermined by another reality, that of lives hemmed in and pettily oppressed by the state of the nation.

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(*Hermann Rudolph*)

(*Stuttgarter Nachrichten*, 11 August 1986)

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Asylum procedures take so long, including court proceedings, that practical limitations are imposed on the obligation on airlines to fly rejected applicants home. Legislative amendments are here under consideration.

To stay deportation proceedings bogus applicants have increasingly taken to destroying their passports. The authorities can then no longer check whether they held valid visas nor say for sure which country of origin must take them back.

Airlines might perhaps be required to

only keep until 1968.

Tirana evidently plans to establish diplomatic ties with Brazil and Spain too. Albania's decision to join the International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA) in Vienna also creates a stir.

Trade between the two countries is flourishing, however. Progress has also been made in talks with Bonn, so diplomatic ties can be expected to be established in the foreseeable

■ THE WORKFORCE

Unemployment is likely to stay over 2m

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Unemployment is not likely to drop below two million this year. The number of people in employment is increasing, but unemployment is falling much more slowly than the Bonn government and industrial associations expected.

The government had been hoping that two pieces of legislation, one covering early retirement and the other creating incentives for employers to hire, would cut into the jobless queues.

The trade unions have been against early retirement. They would rather see shorter working hours.

They also want the Labour Promotion Act repealed because they say that its provisions for fixed-term contracts make it easier for employers to hire and fire.

Have these laws been ineffective because of inadequate application by both unions and management? Neither is keen on the early retirement idea. Or has the government been expecting too much?

There's no clear answer. The early retirement measure was intended to have long-term effects, so a better measure of its success might be seen in the future. It is too early to judge the Labour Promotion Act.

But one thing is clear: workers are retiring earlier today than in the seventies.

They are taking advantage of the flexible retirement age ruling and drawing their retirement pensions by referring to the provisions for seriously disability and occupational invalidity as well as to the '59 Regulation', which enables workers to retire before they reach the statutory retirement age.

For two years now people born between 1926 and 1930 have been able to take advantage of the new provisions; either via a general collective bargaining agreement or an arrangement between employees and employers.

When the law was passed Bonn Labour Minister Norbert Blüm claimed that about a million workers were eligible and that 600,000 would take advantage of the offer.

The minister was over-optimistic. By May this year, only just over 53,000 had decided to retire early.

One reason is clearly that neither unions nor management are enthusiastic about the scheme.

Only just over a third of persons qualifying for early retirement are employed in industries which have early retirement provisions.

The idea is very popular in the building industry, for example, but much less popular in metal industries.

In many cases the individual incentives to retire early are inadequate.

A figure of 65 per cent of a person's previous gross income is planned as a minimum early retirement income.

If the branch or firm in which that

person works doesn't top up this figure many workers decide to continue working.

For many employers the total costs, i.e. the payment of the early retirement money and of a person to fill the resultant vacancy, are too high.

Employers only receive 35 per cent of the early retirement money from the Federal Labour Office.

Nevertheless, the latest figures do reveal a positive aspect in many of the cases where workers have opted for early retirement unemployed persons have taken on their jobs.

The corresponding ratio is between 60 and 70 per cent, which is much higher than originally expected.

The continuing criticism of the Labour Promotion Act by the trade unions has now culminated in a call for immediate repeal.

In the opinion of the deputy chairman of the German Trade Unions Federation, Gerd Muhr, the Act has made it easier for companies to hire and fire workers with the help of fixed-term employment contracts, which can now extend to 18 months.

Muhr referred to those persons who again registered as unemployed last year after their short-term employment contracts ran out.

Viewed in isolation these figures mean nothing.

They do not indicate whether the fixed-term employment contracts were drawn up in line with previous or current legal provisions.

In addition, they do not indicate whether the shorter-term contracts then became longer-term contracts of employment.

Anyone who compares the effects of the Labour Promotion Act with the American-style 'hiring-and-firing' approach is not familiar with the situation in the USA.

Things there are much tougher.

The Labour Promotion Act is limited until 1990 and the early retirement provisions until 1988.

Although the laws have produced no miracle, neither have they been totally ineffective.

In times of continuingly high unemployment even a slight easing of the situation cannot be dismissed as insignificant.

So the laws should not be tinkered with before they have had a chance to do their job.

Many workers still have the opportunity to retire early. It remains to be seen how many actually do.

And in the case of employment contracts with limited duration it would be better to consider whether this will be needed after 1990 rather than calling for their abolition.

The high level of unemployment makes it essential to make use of any ruling which can help ease the situation, no matter how limited the relief may be.

Helmut Murrmann

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 13 August 1986)

Continued from page 1.

It was, that any Ostpolitik or policy of Germany Bonn might like to pursue can only last if it is firmly based on and understood by Bonn's Atlantic and European allies.

The 1971 Four-Power Agreement on Berlin imposed legal limits on the wider power struggle for the city. Besides, it paved the way for the Basic Treaty of West Germany.

The international political tug-of-war over Berlin and the test of strength in the city 25 years ago made one point clear.

If the branch or firm in which that

Government to broaden employee investment opportunities

Frankfurter Rundschau

so in future receive financial support from the government.

The government is hoping to kill two birds with one stone.

Via indirect asset participation funds can be provided for small and medium-sized firms.

With the same intention the Bundestag will also be adopting a law on holding companies after the summer recess, although the companies in question must then enter on business as joint stock companies (AG).

In order to make asset formation participation in the productive capital of one's own firm a more enticing proposition to workers the government has come up with an additional tax incentive.

Anyone who receives share certificates, either free-of-charge or at a discount, from the company in which he is employed has in future a tax-free wage allowance of DM500 each year.

Up to now, the wage tax allowances accordance with income tax laws is DM300 a year.

Workers willing to save their money in line with this scheme stand to gain pretty pfennig — at least according to the Labour Ministry's figures.

An employee who takes advantage of the DM936 law, for example, can receive a maximum of DM560 a year.

If he receives optimal financial support in this way for six years the capital he invests (DM7,324) can almost be doubled to DM14,135 assuming an interest rate of six per cent.

It is doubtful whether this will be incentive enough.

Bonn already raised the premiums for "productive saving" in its first Assets Participation Act.

The corresponding figure was increased from DM624 to DM936.

Most workers, however, prefer to accumulate assets in the form of house-buying, life assurance or a savings book.

The Labour Ministry feels that the fact that there are 20 collective bargaining agreements which take advantage of the asset-forming benefits of the DM936 ruling is an "initial success".

Roughly 400,000 workers advantage of the offer.

Labour Minister Blüm, however, notes the fact that many of these workers are operating at maximum capacity of DM936 but preferred not to invest the money in productive capital.

The second Assets Participation Act is also unlikely to produce a nation of "worker-cum-capitalists".

Even the government shares this opinion.

The new Act is only expected to add to approximately DM700m in tax revenue.

As expected the German Trade Unions Federation is sceptical.

Its priorities are clearly the guarding of real income levels and shorter working week.

Participation in asset formation schemes will not be a key item on the agenda of collective bargaining negotiations.

Michael Stilzner

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 13 August 1986)

■ FINANCE

Another row over who is to play engine driver

Süddeutsche Zeitung

product and in both countries prices for products have fallen (in Japan, in fact, as much as ten per cent compared with last year).

Furthermore the unemployment figure has not budged — on the contrary.

In such a situation using economic measures to revive demand in the private sector would be playing irresponsibly with inflationary fire.

Second: high balance of payments surpluses are not necessarily evidence of economic virtue. They show rather that a country has voluntarily turned away from an increase in living standards, so that there are more exports than imports.

If small countries seem to pursue their mercantilist self-interests that's their business. But if giants such as Japan and West Germany hoard their surpluses then sooner or later the serious economic imbalance created will humorously bring them down.

West Germany did not apply economic pump priming that would not only have hatched the country to international growth but would have laid it open to importing inflation from abroad.

The question is, then, whether Schmidt's answer is still valid today. What is certain is that the West Germans cannot solve the Americans' economic problems.

According to latest estimates by the year's end the Americans will have amassed a balance of payments deficit of \$132 billion. The West Germans, on the other hand, will be able to take satisfaction from a surplus of \$31 billion and the Japanese of \$77 billion.

Doubling American exports to this country to about \$15 billion would only marginally do anything for the American deficit.

There has hardly been any change, except today the words used have altered. Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg was quick to retort that no financial move would be made to stimulate demand.

The Americans, he said, should look to the trouble in their own backyard and do something about the American budget deficit that is running at hundreds of billions of dollars.

American warnings were based on

Domestic revival makes boffins look a bit better

DIE WELT

For a while, it looked as if economic forecasts were about to be knocked for six. Now, it looks as if they will be on target after all.

There has been an upturn and there are signs that the driving force is beginning to come from domestic demand rather than exports.

Orders in the manufacturing industries increased 0.5 per cent in May/June compared with March/April.

Domestic orders booked increased two per cent. Export orders must have fallen by the same percentage.

The picture is much the same when a comparison is made with 1985. Orders booked in May/June are up 0.5 per cent on the 1985 May/June figure.

Domestic orders then rose by 3.5 per cent, but export orders fell by five per cent.

It would be misleading to deduce from these figures that West Germany's exports were tailing off. There are no signs of a loss of competitiveness despite the weak American dollar.

The depreciation in the dollar will eventually influence exports — the deutschemark has risen 50 per cent in value against the dollar since the spring of 1985.

This will not only affect deliveries to the USA, where German exports have increased from 6.1 per cent of the total in 1980 to 10.3 per cent last year, but competition in other markets will be more intense.

The dynamism in world trade has been reduced because of weaknesses in the East Bloc, reduced imports by the Opec countries and the indebtedness of other developing countries.

The market outlook in Europe on the other hand seems more favourable, and two-thirds of German export trade is done in Europe.

In the first five months of this year exports increased 0.4 per cent over the volume for the first five months of 1985. Over the year an increase of between two to three per cent is expected.

But in considering these figures the marked increase in exports over the past few years and the levels achieved should be taken into consideration.

Predictions that the trade balance surplus will increase from DM73 billion in 1985 to more than DM100 billion this year are based primarily on the sharp decline in import prices, not only because of exchange rates but also the price of oil.

In real terms imports increased 1.1 per cent in the January-May period this year. In base-period price terms the export surplus has dropped.

Unfortunately the German credit balance, calculated in dollars, climbed faster than in deutschemarks, and this fans the flames of international pressure on German economic management, so that the economy has to do more.

This neglects to take into consideration the fact that the domestic economy has for some time staged a recovery.

Since real incomes have increased about five per cent, as a result of price stability, private consumption, that rose

Why Europe and America have buried the hatchet (for a while)

The Community sees in this policy a starting-off point for a European contribution towards establishing peace in the Middle East conflict — a plan that is not looked upon entirely with favour by the USA and Israel.

Both want to be seen as champions against increasing demands for trade protectionism. This will expose the Japanese and other protectionist sinners. So the hatchet has been buried.

An agreement with the US must be concluded by the end of the year to deal with the commercial consequences of the admission of Spain and Portugal, both members of Nato, to the European Community.

Europe's tough attitude towards the US has paid off. Now it remains to be seen how the Gatt round turns out. Gatt has lost much of its authority because it is being flouted by agreements for voluntary export restraint, helped by currency manipulation.

The second question will be whether and to what extent Gatt partners, and that means all of them, are prepared to stick to new trading policy agreements.

Experiences with world trade leader America have not been good. President Reagan solemnly made his anti-protectionist declaration at the world economic summit and then, under pressure from the American lobby, imposed

Hans Wintner

(Mannheimer Morgen, 12 August 1986)

Continued on page 8

■ EXHIBITIONS

High-flying baron gets both carnations and a tit-for-tat deal with Russians

Baron Hans Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza is one of the richest men in the world. He is a significant art collector with over 1,500 pictures. His collection is so significant that the Hermitage museum in Leningrad is putting them on exhibition. The arrangement is part of an exchange: the baron's ornate villa, Villa Favorita, on Lake Lugano is holding an exhibition of Russian art treasures on loan from the Hermitage.

The dining room and adjacent salons of the magnificent 18th-century Villa Favorita on Lake Lugano, owned by Baron Hans Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza, have been cleared to make way for a display of gold, silver and jewels.

The collection, which once belonged to the tsars and other aristocrats, is on loan from the Hermitage in Leningrad.

The Baron pointed out one item, an altar piece, which he said, had been found blackened and dirty, forgotten in a dark corner of a storeroom in the Hermitage. The Hermitage was originally an annex to the Winter Palace.

The cleaned-up altar piece (tabernacle) shows Christ floating in gold and silver and gazing towards a blue heaven.

The one-metre tall baroque altar piece is a masterpiece made in Augsburg. It is one of the 150 gold and silver treasures from the Hermitage on display in the villa.

Baron Thyssen has just returned from the opening in Leningrad of an exhibition of equivalent treasures from his own collection.

The 64-year-old Baron, who is regarded as an ambassador for the arts, said of his latest Russian adventure: "It was very exciting."

We were sitting in the salon of his ochre-coloured villa surrounded by paintings by Emil Nolde, Max Beckmann and Gustav Courbet. They competed with the view of the emerald-green mountains and the blue of Lake Lugano.

After lunch on the terrace he poured himself a small whisky with plenty of water. On that beautiful summer day, wearing a white made-to-measure shirt with the initials H.T.B., he told of his winter expedition.

In January he flew from St Moritz to Moscow in his own private jet. Since air traffic over the Soviet Union is controlled via Russia, a Soviet pilot was sent to St Moritz to fly his plane.

He was greeted officially and presented with official carnations.

Thyssen-Bornemisza is a German-Hungarian millionaire with a Swiss passport. His main home is in Britain. He is very popular in Russia.

The British art expert Ann Somers-Cocks, who accompanied the Baron along with his curator Simon de Fury, said: "The Russians hate dealing with unknown institutions. But the Baron is a man with influence and he knows his way about. Furthermore, he can drink vodka like a real man."

After the British Queen he is the second largest private art collector in the world. The Russians knew about him before he reached Moscow.

One evening at a dinner in Cologne, the Russian ambassador at the time, Vladimir Semionov, asked him: "Why

do you put on such wonderful exhibitions in America and not in Russia as well?"

In 1983 he gave his reply by putting on an exhibition of 40 of his Old Masters that toured Leningrad, Moscow and Kiev, attracting a million visitors.

But the generous Baron was not left empty-handed. The Russians replied with a picture for picture exhibition of Impressionists.

Instead of the usual 25,000 art fans who call at the Baron's villa between Easter and October, 250,000 made their way to see the Impressionist paintings from Russia in Villa Favorita, a paradise hemmed in by cypress trees.

His inheritance from steel and the international organisation he has built up himself have made Thyssen one of the richest men in the world...

The business is now mainly in the hands of his eldest son Georg Heinrich. He concentrates most of his energies and his obvious appetite for living on art.

He buys with gusto. Currently he owns about 1,500 pictures. Because he is short of wall space, but also because he enjoys making a fine gesture, he loans his pictures out all over the world.

His East-West flirtation was continued last year with an exchange of pictures with Hungary. A further exhibition was planned for 1986, an exchange of Impressionist paintings from Russia for some of his Old Masters.

In his calm, Austrian accent he said: "After the Geneva summit conference the Americans asked for a similar exhibition. So we postponed that exhibition exchange until next year. Next time the pictures will be a degree better than in 1983."

The Baron said: "I find these Russian expeditions fascinating." He stood up and re-filled his glass.

It is a marvellous opportunity to get to know a society that is quite different. It is very much to do with people. I have met some very cultivated people there, who are proud of their traditions," he said.

His curiosity and his highly developed sense of humour induces him to

poke a little gentle fun at the traps in the Russian system.

He has difficulty finding an official with whom he can negotiate. The present contract, for instance, was concluded with the former Minister for Cultural Affairs, Plotr Demilchev, but he has now been promoted to vice-president of the Soviet Union.

"Last week there was no mention of his successor. That makes you just a little nervous," he said laughing.

The Russians proposed that Novosibirsk should be included along with Moscow and Leningrad in the itinerary for the Thyssen exhibition next year. But because the Baron wanted to fly there in his private jet the Russians suddenly discovered that there was no museum in Novosibirsk.

He was able to match a tobacco jar belonging to Frederick the Great, that

he calmly predicted that he would go there.

The Baron has only had a few friendly exchanges with Russian leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Baron Thyssen sent him a catalogue of his jewels that are currently on show in the Hermitage. Gorbachev sent his thanks via two ambassadors.

In a subtle way the Baron took part in the Geneva summit conference. At President Reagan's request he loaned a picture of the American coastline to go over the fireplace in the salon in Geneva. "But only for three hours, I said, otherwise the picture will suffer. I was precise about that. I got Reagan and Gorbachev to stand under this picture," Thyssen said.

Of the people who turned up for the opening of his current exhibition in Leningrad he commented that it was just like a gathering of people in the American Mid-West.

He cut the red ribbon to declare the exhibition open and talked of Chernobyl. "The Russian television cameras panned away from me, although I was speaking about Russia in friendly terms," he said.

Thyssen paid for the catalogue and the exhibition insurance himself. When the Russians sent a bill for \$210,000 for insurance for their exhibition he telephoned back: "In 1983 the insurance was \$70,000."

Back came the reply: "\$70,000 is acceptable." Thyssen commented in this way a friendly agreement could be arrived at in art dealings today.

Thyssen would very much like to mount an exhibition of Russian avant-garde painting of around 1900 for the Russian public.

He said: "This art is frowned upon. Russia and pushed aside. I had a verbal agreement from Andropov, but after Gorbachev it has been postponed. He needs to have the reins of government firmly in his hands before he does anything."

We went from the terrace to the Museum, which is also ochre-coloured. On Mondays it is closed to the public. Thyssen displays here permanently 300 of his Old Masters.

He is not only concerned with East-West relations. His fifth wife is Spanish and he has been able to attract Lugano Goya pictures in private collections to join the Goya paintings from the Hermitage.

He then flew over his villa not only the Swiss flag but the Hammer and Sickle.

For reasons of space visitors to the Hermitage can only see about 20 per cent of the curious and costly artworks collected by the tsars and which are now so effectively displayed in the darkened private rooms of the Villa Favorita.

It is fortunate that they were never cleaned. They are in pristine condition, every engraving as sharp as if it were executed yesterday.

The exhibition includes artistic Russian enamel pendants and large splendid plates from Augsburg. There is an English silver cup made from three horses' heads joined together and a French silver bowl with a wave round the rim, pure *Jugendstil* dating from 1913.

An expensive clasp gleams hidden in a crystal vase shaped like a flowering branch. A minute clock is enclosed by a tulip flower.

Baron Thyssen looked at a particularly Russian work of art, an artistically worked steel object from Tula, with particular warmth. He said: "I would like to have a piece like that myself."

But he thinks that his collection of costly renaissance jewellery in silver and pieces of Fabergé is equal to that of the tsars collected.

Hans Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza left me alone with the King. He was ready. It was scheduled to fly to Spain.



Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza... for vodka.

(Photo: AP)

■ ANTHROPOLOGY

Through the jaguar's mouth and onwards to Huitzilopochtli

DIE ZEIT

on a pattern that seems to run through the coarse stone in soft waves gives expression to both the soft interior and the hard shell.

Traces of blue paint indicate that the snail was dedicated to the rain god Tlaloc, one of the oldest and most important Aztec deities, whose favour was essential for a good harvest.

The snail was probably a fertility symbol. Snailshell horns were sounded in ritual ceremonies.

Stone models of ball game equipment

can also be admired in Hildesheim. It was a game of life or death that fired the conquistadores' flights of bloodthirsty fancy and prompted them to launch punitive expeditions against the barbarous Aztecs.

The game was played with a heavy rubber ball that could only be touched with the torso, so players wore thick cotton or leather padding.

Many details of dating and the use to which objects were put have yet to be settled, but the stone yokes and palmas are felt to have been laid in the graves of ball game players who were sacrificed.

The ball game is based on the idea that the Sun loses strength as it passes through the land of the dead by night and needs to be strengthened with a human blood sacrifice.

Items from 33 museums range from the pre-Aztec period from about the second millennium BC to the flowering of Mexican civilisation in the 14th century AD.

HEALTH

Food and drink regulations need to be tightened up, warns researcher

Städtezeitung

German food and drink regulations need to be tightened up, says Berlin foodstuffs expert Hermann Hummel-Liljegren.

Professor Hummel-Liljegren wants 10 new research units to check radiation in food and drink so a nation-wide radiation chart can be compiled.

He also refers to a possible conflict of interest where some factory inspectors also are used as consultants by those factories they are meant to inspect.

There has been a succession of adulteration scandals over the past couple of years, and the public suspects that Germany's allegedly strict regulations are not enforced as strictly as they should be.

Consumers find it hard to believe that inspectors checked adulterated wines thoroughly for glycol and methanol. They doubt whether milk and vegetables are adequately checked for radioactivity.

The major scandals have triggered waves of outrage; lesser scandals have become commonplace.

Nowadays no-one is up in arms on learning that over 50 per cent of deep-frozen chickens are full of salmonella bacteria, a common cause of food poisoning, or that allergens are permitted foodstuff additives.

The legal penalties for adulteration don't seem to upset professional adulterators. Does the combination of the law, enforcement agencies and the courts still give enough protection from poison and declining food quality?

"The HPLC analysis had been intensively used, diethylene glycol additive would with some certainty have been identified much earlier," write Gunes Barka and Volker Heidiger in the foodstuffs chemistry supplement of the specialist journal *CIT*.

Other chemists agree that extract analysis, which a prescribed wine testing technique, ought to have brought glycol to light earlier — if only a courageous research chemist had taken the trouble to do more than his daily routine.

But state inspection laboratories are already so overworked they can barely cope with routine work. Twenty years ago wine had to undergo eight tests; the number is now about 20.

The number of toxins and impurities chemists might keep their eyes open for increases by the year.

There are 1,500 pesticides on sale in the Federal Republic, traces of which might be found in certain foodstuffs.

Veterinary drugs, heavy metals and dyestuffs are further hazards. Besides, as the glycol wine scandal showed, adulterators are growing increasingly refined.

"We must think in terms of the future," says Professor Erich Coduro, head of the *Land* health laboratories in Munich. "There must be no question of us being paralysed by routine."

There are no analysis techniques yet known for many substances — techniques suitable for routine use, that is.

Unless they have the widest possible selection of analysis techniques laboratories are not sure to prove no match for growing environmental pollution and sophisticated adulterators.

When *Land* laboratories were inundated with samples of adulterated wine and radioactive vegetables they no longer had enough time to keep up routine checks.

In Bavaria the authorities have already reacted to this workload. After the glycol scandal two new chemists were hired for the Munich department, while after Chernobyl fresh staff were taken on for radioactive analysis.

Must the laboratories await further scandals before being fitted out with more staff and equipment that could arguably tip future scandals in the bud?

Professor Hummel-Liljegren called, in the wake of Chernobyl, for the establishment of 10 new radiation research institutes as units of the food and drink inspection service.

He also refers to a possible conflict of interest where some factory inspectors also are used as consultants by those factories they are meant to inspect.

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Such draconian punishment is no longer in fashion, of course. Professor Hummel-Liljegren says the 1974 legislation made life easier for offenders by "decriminalising" adulteration.

Many previously criminal offences have since been scaled down to the level of a parking ticket. Pay your fine and that's that.

A mere fine isn't going to deter offenders. A wine dealer found guilty of selling three containers of Italian wine as Moselle wine was fined a derisory DM600, for instance.

The Hamburg booklet lists what the numbers, such as E 102, stand for and how dangerous the substance may be.

E 102 is a yellow dyestuff, tartrazine. Sensitive people have been known to be allergic to it, up to and including blisters and asthmatic bouts.

This information from the Rowohlt book "What We All Swallow" does not stop manufacturers of custard powder, sweets and lemonade from using tartrazine liberally. It is inexpensive and turns substances a bright and cheerful yellow.

In findings circulated to Federal and *Land* Ministries the commission said existing fines and other provisions must be used to the full.

The North Rhine-Westphalian Consumer Association goes even further, calling for more stringent regulation governing breaches of foodstuffs legislation.

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There are specialists in the legal and chemical details in larger towns and cities. They don't need to rely on expert testimony; they can make sense of the jargon themselves.

For food, in contrast, a sulphur content of 50 milligrams per kilo must be specified.

Wine drinkers aren't told that a mere quarter litre of many a *Spätlese* contains the maximum permitted daily dose of sulphur dioxide for humans.

Not even strict legislation rigorously enforced can be sure to guarantee that the system works.

The municipal code of Soest, Westphalia, dating back to the year 1120

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simply states that anyone who mixes bad wine with good will forfeit his life.

Such draconian punishment is no longer in fashion, of course. Professor Hummel-Liljegren says the 1974 legislation made life easier for offenders by "decriminalising" adulteration.

Many previously criminal offences have since been scaled down to the level of a parking ticket. Pay your fine and that's that.

A mere fine isn't going to deter offenders. A wine dealer found guilty of selling three containers of Italian wine as Moselle wine was fined a derisory DM600, for instance.

The Hamburg booklet lists what the numbers, such as E 102, stand for and how dangerous the substance may be.

E 102 is a yellow dyestuff, tartrazine. Sensitive people have been known to be allergic to it, up to and including blisters and asthmatic bouts.

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Courts not being sufficiently well informed on the subject seems not to be the sole reason why many offenders get off little short of scot-free.

Professor Hummel-Liljegren refers guardedly to the risk of subjective penalties. What he means is a conflict of interest. When a factory inspector checks the premises of a leading food manufacturer from 9 to 5 and advises them at a consultant in his spare time, his judgment may well be biased, after all.

Christine Finkensieper of the Bavarian Consumer Association says 100 people a year ring her to complain being fobbed off by factory inspectors.

One consumer complained to the authorities about mouldy cheese and mouldy gills sold in a Munich supermarket. Yet despite her complaint there was no improvement for four months.

In the long run only critical consumers can ensure sufficient pressure to prevent breaches of food and drink regulations getting out of hand.

"What we need is the assistance of

Continued on page 13

MEDICINE

How lifestyle affects chances of having a heart attack or getting cancer

DEUTSCHE ALMENINGEN
SONNTAGSBLATT

How you live has a direct bearing on your chance of suffering from a heart attack, a stroke or cancer, says Heidelberg psychiatrist Ronald Grossarth-Maticek.

Statistically speaking, self-reliant people who are not prone to neuroses are generally less likely to suffer from such killer complaints.

People who are heavily dependent on a partner, a job, a hobby or an idea are two to five times more likely to suffer from a serious complaint of this kind.

This psychological aspect is said to have an even greater effect on how illnesses develop than classic risks such as smoking, lack of exercise and unhealthy diets.

Grossarth-Maticek, addressing a medical congress in Berlin, based his conclusions on a Heidelberg survey of 1,026 elderly people questioned about how they lived and any illnesses they may have had.

They were interviewed twice, at an interval of 10 years, and found to roughly come in four categories:

Type 1 is heavily dependent on and closely associates his or her well-being with a person or an objective.

The same set of questions produced

remarkably identical answers in a village in Yugoslavia. Grossarth-Maticek, now at London University, refers to

Consumers can also influence food quality by their buying habits. If a manufacturer finds sales of food containing harmful dyestuffs tail off he will either have to stop using them or risk losing his share of the market.

But there is no way in which a consumer boycott can spike the guns of professional adulterators like the glycol wine-adulterators as long as they go unnoticed.

"Food inspection can't prevent scandals," Professor Coduro says. "It will remain a wide-meshed net rather than a sheet."

Christine Broll

Städtezeitung, Munich, 2 August 1986

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Chronic depression and overactivity is how they react to the loss of the beloved person or "object." Type 1 corresponds with cancer of the stomach.

Type 2 also bears the hallmark of dependence, but one felt to be entirely negative.

The person or object is to blame for a permanent feeling of dissatisfaction or annoyance, yet Type 2 is unable to break with his or her hugbear.

This type is correlated with heart attacks, strokes and diabetes.

There were 12 cases of cancer and 14 heart attacks in the control group who had never a minute to themselves.

He said hospital rooms were entered up to 42 times a day by ward staff, leaving patients with no time in which to eat or personal needs.

Yet in sickness as in health the patient remained an individual and a person in need of private life.

Not all doctors and specialists would agree. One speaker in Heidelberg was shocked to feel that a sick person might lack his partner's care.

It isn't even a matter of an opportunity to sleep with each other. Most patients would be happy to be able to be on their own for 10 minutes or half an hour and hold their partner in their arms and maybe cry a little.

■ HORIZONS

Easy riders calm frayed nerves in autobahn jams

Motorway tollbooths during summer holiday weekends are a nightmare to motorists. On one weekend this summer tollbooths on German autobahns totalled 100 kilometres. In situations such as these the tollbooth counsellor of the ADAC, Germany's Munich-based motororing association, comes into her own, calming nerves and reassuring motorists caught up in motorway delays.

Ulrike Johannsen would have a difficultly miming her weekend job if she were to appear as a guest on Robert Lea's "What's My Line" quiz on German TV.

She helps relieve pent-up anger when motorists are brought to a stop by tollbooths on a motorway, or in diversions through villages on the Lüneburg Heath.

She tries to quieten fretful children with fruit juice, drinks and sweets, amusing them with games and balloons.

She particularly tries in her pleasant so that motorists do not get too worked up at the delays. How do you manage that?

Ulrike, 24, who works with the handicapped during the week, comes from Lüneburg. She is one of the ADAC's crew of 90 who patrol the country's 7,930 kilometres of autobahn on motor-cycles at holiday weekends.

They are not ADAC patrolmen; they are motorway tollbooth counsellors working in Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg and the Rhineland.

Since 13 June they have been joined by motorcycle tollbooth counsellors in Lower Saxony, of which the Lüneburg area forms part.

Ulrike rides a 1,000cc, 90hp BMW bike that can reach 200kph, or 125mph. On this powerful machine she can weave her way through tollbooths with ease.

As regularly as clockwork there is a tollbooth on the A7 autobahn from Hamburg to Hanover close to the Aller station in peak holiday periods.

An engineer from Düsseldorf asked: "Tailback. Why?" He can read the word "Tailback" displayed on her motorcycle, and if he looks through his rear mirror he can still read it correctly.

Ulrike is able to calm motorists down telling them that the delay is due to a collision and will last about ten minutes.

The man from Düsseldorf gets a motorway map and can see for himself where the next motorway exit is that will get him to the Baltic resort that is his holiday destination.

His wife sitting next to him cannot believe that Ulrike can handle her 263kg BMW.

The children in the back seat are given lollipops, fruit juice and a jigsaw puzzle. The family is completely bowled over by all this attention.

The scene changes to the next tollbooth at the Horst interchange near Hamburg. A Wolfsburg businessman comes and says because he is hurried he might miss his flight to London from Hamburg airport.

Ulrike is able to offer a unique service being tested in Lower Saxony. Her motor-cycle is equipped not only with a radio operating on police frequencies but a mobile telephone that, unlike a car

telephone, can reach any number nationally and internationally and can be reached by dialing a special number.

Ulrike hands the headphones to the businessman in his car. The mobile telephone is preset to dial the airport automatically — along with other important numbers such as the hospital, police and other services.

The businessman was able to change his flight booking and paid for the service just a little more than he would have paid for a call from a public telephone.

There is another aspect to the motorway tollbooth counsellor idea in Lower Saxony. Ulrike Johannsen is as a pilot passenger Joachim Hoffmann of the German Red Cross, who has artificial respiration equipment in his motorcycle side-pack for first aid to the injured.

On one busy summer weekend he gave first aid to a car passenger injured in a crash in roadworks near Allerl until the ambulance arrived, and a little later pulled a badly-injured woman out of an overturned car near Soltau.

Ulrike Johannsen calmed down a distraught woman who would not allow anyone to give her first aid.

There is another motorcycle fitted with Ulrike's that runs on holiday weekends. The rider patrols the southern sector of the motorway between Hildesheim and the Hesse state border.

Young soldiers camping out get up in the morning and strip to the waist to wash.

With the girls, both from nearby Ratingen and studying for the Abitur, the university entrance exam, stripping would be a problem, so they are trucked back to barracks to take a shower in the morning and the evening.

Lieutenant-Colonel Klaus Tappe, 45, battalion commander, said: "Of course, some limits have had to be imposed."

But apart from the showers the girls have been soldiering just like the young men since the beginning of July.

They are doing basic training, including a week in the bivouac in the military training area.

Claudia and Annette wanted to know what the Bundeswehr, the army, was like right close up. They are dressed in olive-green, just like the young recruits, and have done field training.

They think it is not fair that girls should be able to get out of doing 15 months in the armed forces.

Claudia Mai, who is studying to be a chemical laboratory assistant, can see no reason why she should not be a "soldiering" on a career. She said that physically women were quite capable of serving in the forces.

Lieutenant-Colonel Tappe said: "I have two views on the subject. On the one hand women should be able to serve voluntarily in the Bundeswehr. Without arms, of course."

Then there are any number of problems in the situation, as we know from other armies that recruit women."

Every year about 4,000 women apply to the Defence Ministry wanting to serve in the Bundeswehr.

Annette Dann was able to continue with aches and pains, that training is a piece of cake.

She had blisters on her feet, nevertheless said: "Of course I intend to do the 20-kilometre orientation march — the billets will go away."

A note left behind after the murder of Siemens executive Beckorts and his

Continued on page 16

Man's world, one. Women in, two.

(Photo: Ulrich Hornig)



Just the girl for the jam... autobahn rider Johannsen. (Photo: Ewald Rehmer)

Claudia and Annette want to see army life close up... now, read on

Claudia Mai and Annette Dann, both 19, both members of the Junge Union, the young conservatives, wanted to get to know more about the army, so they joined up.

Annette Dann said: "We wanted to be able to talk about the army, but so often we had to say that we had nothing to do with it."

They now have a chance to get an insight into the military and get some idea of what it is like being a conscript. They are with 161 recruits in 821 Signals Company stationed in Düsseldorf.

Young soldiers camping out get up in the morning and strip to the waist to wash.

With the girls, both from nearby Ratingen and studying for the Abitur, the university entrance exam, stripping would be a problem, so they are trucked back to barracks to take a shower in the morning and the evening.

Now the young men think the project was a good thing, but some criticise the fact that the girls do not carry weapons and so do not go through the really tough training that the conscripts experience.

Significant Jürgen Bruch, 19, from Düsseldorf, also doing the Abitur, says: "I can see no reason why I should not do my military service along with girls."

But apart from the showers the girls have been soldiering just like the young men since the beginning of July.

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A note left behind after the murder of Siemens executive Beckorts and his

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Man's world, one. Women in, two.

(Photo: Ulrich Hornig)

(Photo: Ewald Rehmer)

Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf, 26 July 1986

■ TERRORISM

Aim remains the same: only the tactics are new

Three members of the terrorist Red Army Faction (RAF), Eva Sybille Haule-Frimpong, Christian Kluth and Luitgard Hornstein, have been arrested in an ice cream parlour in Rösselsheim. They were being sought on a variety of counts involving violence. A fourth suspected terrorist, Ursula Barabas, has been arrested on charges of complicity. She is said to have provided the others with shelter. Eighteen years after the first attacks on department stores the heirs of Andreas Baader and Ulrike Meinhof continue to murder and destroy property with increasing brutality.

RAF activists greeted their sympathisers with the repugnant comment "The comrades have become killers" when, at the height of terrorist bloodshed in 1977, they murdered not only "representatives of the system" such as chief public prosecutor Siegfried Buback and employers' leader Hanns-Martin Schleyer, but also Schleyer's chauffeur and three bodyguards.

The shift of vague aims from radical

changes in Germany to the anti-imperialist world revolution has made no difference in the RAF's attitude towards extreme violence. What is noticeable is that their use of violence has become more indiscriminate.

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The RAF themselves did not name him in their seven-page letter claiming responsibility for the Stachus murder.

Within RAF circles the only concern about the shooting of American serviceman Edward Pimental in Wiesbaden, whose identification papers were required for an attack on the Frankfurt military airport, was whether it was a tactical error.

RAF activists of the third generation fight shy of risks and plan acts that present as little danger to themselves personally as possible.

These militants are made up mainly of old, dropout fighters from the inner circle.

There is a marked difference in the methods used by the commando group and the militants in their mutual anti-imperialist aims. While the hard core kill deliberately, the militants try to avoid endangering other people in their attacks.

Over the years the RAF's attraction has not diminished despite a new ideological approach and the major "offensive" mounted since the end of 1984.

As in the past their is the double circle of sympathisers, the close-knit group made up of about 200 firm supporters, from which the hard core of the RAF and the militants are recruited, and a wider circle of like-minded people, about 500. They are unscrupulous and can be roped into RAF aims.

Continued from page 14

proach. They know from ADAC questionnaires that most drivers are obsessed by motorway tollbooths, a phenomenon that Mühlbauer cannot explain.

Then there are any number of problems in the situation, as we know from other armies that recruit women."

Every kind of institution, no matter how far removed from what the terrorists regarded as imperialism, was fair game for RAF bomb attacks.

RAF planning, as developed recently, now includes West German industrial firms involved in the American Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) and the European Space project.

Ulrike Johannsen says: "If I take off my helmet everyone is amazed that I am a woman and everyone is always very nice to me." It's fun to deal with other people's irritation.

Despite radio warnings almost 80 per cent of motorists drive straight into a tollbooth. Later they will tell their friends: "We were caught up in that tollbooth. Didn't you read about it?"

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